

STATESMEN AT POKER.

The Summer Game in All Its Glory Is Now on at Washington.

WORSE THAN WALES' BACCARAT.

The Whisky Is Abundant and Knockdowns Are Not Unknown.

BIG WIGS WHO KEEP UP THE SPORT

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The statesmen's summer poker crowd doesn't find Washington dull even at this sweltering season. Its headquarters are at a popular hostelry, and it is a colder evening than is usual just now when Senator Plumb is not to be discovered there with a stack or two of chips in front of him, contending for their possession with Mahone, of Virginia, Judge Perkins, late of Kansas but lost in the recent political shuffle, and other eminent adepts. While a Representative, Perkins enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most dangerous players in Congress, his smooth-shaven, price-like face ever emotionless as that of the Sphinx, whether in contemplation of a four-of-a-kind or blunting with a big limit on a booby.

Since Mahone left the Senate he is said to have spent about one-half of his time drawing cards. Senators Don Cameron, Vest and Aldrich take a frequent hand in this game when they are in town.

A Row Among the Adepts.

A rather serious row broke it up on one occasion not long ago. The story has never been told. The Senators, one of them Vest, dropped into the hotel at 11 o'clock in the evening, finding that the Cameron, Dave Little, of Illinois, and another Senator. The last named, who is a very famous man and a leader of the Upper House, had been dining not only at the hotel, but never, theless was bent on playing poker. A game was organized for small stakes, and he lost readily, which made him cross. So the others thought it would be fun to put up a little job on him, and it was arranged while he was out of the room for a moment that he should be given four kings, with which to bet against four aces, explanation and restitution to come after the issue of the pot.

The thing was done, but the Senator from a certain small New England State who had come in with Vest was so clumsy about it that he had to deal himself about 14 cards in order to secure the four aces required. It was imagined that the victim wouldn't notice this, but the latter's gaze while betting was going on became fixed with stony astonishment upon the large fan of cards in his adversary's hand, and, becoming suddenly convinced that he did not see double, he jumped to his feet, seized his chair by the back, and smashed the New England Senator over the head with it.

Had to Tuck Up a Neck.

The other players at once intervened and a fight was with difficulty averted. It is only very recently, however, that the gentleman with four kings has been so far made to comprehend the joke as to consent once more to be on speaking terms with the Senator who manipulated the pasteboards so unfairly.

Vest is considered the best poker player in the Senate—a regular robot, in fact. He nearly always wins. If he did not, he couldn't afford to play, being one of the poor members of the Upper House. A while ago he was at Hot Springs, Ark., with Senator Keena. Society there was little mixed, and so it happened that a very gentlemanly gambler from St. Louis made a third with them in a little game of draw. It was perfectly fair, but Vest lost all the money he had, borrowed more and saw it

disappear, and finally had to give two or three notes of hand to square himself before dropping out. The coup, he leaned back in his chair, fanning himself and enjoying the sport as a spectator.

Consider the St. Louis gambler, between the hands, began making some complimentary remarks upon a very beautiful and elaborate shirt which Vest had on. He took the liberty of feeling the texture of the garment, and, after ascertaining how much it had cost, remarked that he would like to own just such a one himself.

"Centenches," said Vest, rising from his chair with an air of seriousness, "I will bid you good night. You may rob me of all the money I have and all I can borrow, but I'm blasted if you can get my shirt!"

One night there was a little game in Mahone's room at headquarters, and it chanced that a certain ex-member of President Arthur's Cabinet, distinguished for his youthful appearance, walked in. There was a very interesting jack-pot in progress at the moment, and the host merely looked up to nod and indicate a whisky bottle on the corner of the mantelpiece. The newcomer poured out a dose into a glass, and, as in his wont, he took a small sip of the liquor to try its quality before swallowing the drink and spat it out into the open fire.

Thought He Spat Fire.

One of the players, with whom he was not acquainted, looked up at the moment from his cards and instead of a whisky bottle saw the whisky—seeing the expectorated liquid flame up from the coals, cried in astonishment: "For heaven's sake, young man, if you spit fire, get out of here as soon as you quit drinking the better."

A story apropos of whisky is told on Mahone which is too good not to be true. He had suspected that his clerk, Kentucky stock was sampled on the sly by his colored servant; so he deputed it into another demijohn and supplied it in the first demijohn with a strong medicinal preparation calculated to produce most unpleasant symptoms in case anyone partook of it. Unfortunately, he forgot all about the precaution he had taken and the clerk, when he arrived, and fetched out the old demijohn to supply fluid cheer for a small poker party of his friends. Each of the latter swallowed a portion of it and promptly died.

He Doesn't Know How to Play.

The Congressman from the Northwest are nearly always great poker players. Pettigrew, of South Dakota, has figured to a great extent in newspaper card-playing stories. Not long ago a yarn was circulated to the effect that he had lost his entire fortune at the game in Washington, but there was no foundation for such a statement.

The Senator himself says that he used to "poker" a great deal when he first came to Washington as a Delegate from the Territory. He thought he knew how then, but contact with the experts here convinced him that he was mistaken and he has quit. The other day he remarked: "Let the newspaper boys make me a figure in their poker stories as often as they like, but I want them always to make me out a winner. It is wicked to lose at gambling."

Don't Play With Brass Bands.

Poker is a statesmanlike game. Never-

theless, those who are eminent in the councils of the nation and who indulge a fondness for the sport usually keep it very dark, fearing a prejudice on the part of the pious element among their constituents against their hobby, but much abused amusement. Many tales are told of a method adopted by lobbyists of conveying bribes by intentionally losing money at the game to Senators or Representatives. Even when the legislator whose honor is thus assailed has no notion of accepting money for his vote, he cannot help feeling under a sort of chivalric obligation to a man whose cash he has won.

The most thoroughly fashionable poker playing ever done in Washington was at the house of a widow of means and fashion, who was received everywhere in society here. Three nights in the week there was a game at her house, in which not only the swiftest of the young men about town took part, but young ladies also of the most aristocratic families. It was run on the system that the men were expected to lose as a rule. If any one of them happened to win once or twice, he was not invited again. The girls were permitted to gain, this serving as the bait to attract them.

The mistress of the establishment found in poker her ruling passion, and was so skillful that it was believed she cleared her expenses by it each winter. Choice liquors were always on the sideboard, at which the players sat, and it was not infrequently much was thought of it if a young gentleman took more than he ought. The men took turns in setting up an different evening baskets of champagne. Anything more thoroughly demoralizing could hardly be imagined. In no other city could such goings-on have been permitted, nor could it have been possible elsewhere that such a woman should be visited by the people of a great social pretension, while matronizing their daughters in a private gambling house—unless in the Prince of Wales' set. Three years ago the woman ceased coming to Washington to spend her winters, at the suggestion of the police, it is imagined.

A Recommendation.

You can say to your readers that I have tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhea Remedy for diarrhea and colic, and that I would recommend it as a good medicine.

George W. Briscoe, Reedsydeville, Washington county, Md.

They're Elegant for the Money.

Here's an extra special bargain we will offer to-morrow: We place on sale 250 men's cassimere sack suits, neat patterns, checks, plaids and hair-line stripes, good, desirable colors, dark grounds, with light mixtures, etc., for only \$6 75 each. Recollect that these suits are only to be had on Monday, as there's only a limited quantity.

P. C. C., Pittsburg Combination Clothing Company, corner Grant and Diamond streets.

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By wearing our celebrated

BEST \$1 SPECTACLES ON EARTH.

We give your eyes a thorough scientific examination and adjust to each eye the lens that it requires. It is a large selection of all grades of Bedroom Furniture. Get cash prices in the city, and we will discount any price you get.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. HAVE A PARLOR RECEIVE YOUR COMPANY. HOUSEHOLD CREDIT COMPANY, 723 AND 725 LIBERTY STREET. SPECIAL OFFERING TWO HUNDRED PARLOR SUITS, THIS WEEK ONLY, THIRTY DOLLARS. ON VERY EASY TERMS, AS YOU LIKE THEM.

BABY CARRIAGES. ICE CHESTS, REFRIGERATORS and WATER COOLERS. Our summer line of specialties the largest in the city. FROM \$5 TO \$35. ALL LATEST IMPROVEMENTS. NO SHODDY GOODS SOLD. GOODS SELL ON SIGHT. ALL PRICES AND STYLES. EVERYTHING GUARANTEED. CASH OR CREDIT. HOPPER BROS. & CO., The Only House in the City carrying a Full Assortment. SEE OUR OAK SIDEBOARD REFRIGERATORS.

A MORE LIBERAL OFFER—This week we will MAKE AND LAY all Carpets, Oil Cloths and Linoleums FREE! FREE! FREE! Also all Lace Curtains, Portieres and shades hung free of charge when purchased with Carpets and furniture. Don't neglect this liberal offer. The largest selection of China and Japan Mattings in the city. Out to size at roll prices. See some of the handsome designs. CASH OR CREDIT. HOPPER BROS. & CO.

OUR SPECIAL EFFORT is our PARLOR FURNITURE. The quality and style we turn out make the reputation of the house. Also a large selection of all grades of Bedroom Furniture. Get cash prices in the city, and we will discount any price you get. PIONEERS OF LOW PRICES. CASH OR EASY PAYMENTS. HOPPER BROS. & CO., No. 42 Federal St., Allegheny, Pa. 307 WOOD STREET, 307 Near Corner Fourth Avenue.

RUBEN, The Hatter and Furnisher, 421 and 423 Smithfield St. NOTE—Mail orders promptly filled. jek-778u

WM. GRABOWSKY. Hats and Bonnets renovated and shaped into this season's styles. Good as new. OVER 50 NEW SHAPES For Your Selection. HERBERT WALKER, ARTIFICIAL EYE MAKER, 55 Ninth Street. The only manufacturer of artificial human eyes in the city. my18-8u

BETTER SUITS AT \$40, \$50, \$75. HOUSEHOLD CREDIT COMPANY, 723 AND 725 LIBERTY STREET. Corner Eighth, Head of Wood Street, PITTSBURG'S LEADING INSTALLMENT HOUSE.

EVERY DEPARTMENT RADIANT WITH WONDERFUL BARGAINS. KAUFMANN'S GRAND SPECIAL OFFERING DURING THE NEXT 3 DAYS.

BUSINESS MEN, ATTENTION! Commencing to-morrow morning and continuing until Wednesday evening, we will offer choice from a line of over 700 Men's Elegant Business Sack and Cutaway Frock Suits at ONLY \$10. These suits are made of first-class light, medium and dark Scotch Cheviots and English Cassimeres, and, but for the extraordinarily low price at which we bought them, we could not afford to sell them below \$14. They are well made and fit perfectly. Your choice from the entire line at ONLY \$10. Business men will find these goods just the thing for style and comfort.

SPECIAL SALE KANGAROO SHOES! There's nothing like a Kangaroo Shoe for ease and comfort. During the next three days we will offer 800 pairs Men's GENUINE Kangaroo Dress Shoes, in Lace and Congress, sizes 6 to 10, and worth \$5, at only \$3 50 per pair. Also, a line of imitation Kangaroo Shoes, same as sold for the genuine article by many dealers, at only \$2 50. 890 pairs Men's Baseball Shoes, regular price \$1 25, at 69c. 675 pairs Men's Lawn Tennis Shoes, with rubber soles, regular price \$1, at only 50c. Gentlemen who wear "Patent Leathers" should buy the best only, because they're the cheapest in the long run. Hanan's Men's French Patent Leather Shoes (we have the sole agency for them in Pittsburg) are the best made, and our price for them is but \$5 50. Cheaper qualities of Patent Leather Shoes at \$2 50 and \$3 50.

BICYCLISTS, STOP AND READ! Great Special Sale during the next 3 days of Bicyclists' garments. At \$3 50 we will offer extra quality Regulation Bicycle Breeches or Coats, made of fine English Stockinette, in black, blue or brown; pants with double seat and two hip pockets, and coats thoroughly well finished. Regulation Bicycle Shirts from 98c up. Regulation Bicycle Caps, all colors, plain or braided, at 50c and 98c. Regulation Bicycle Shoes, very durably made, at \$1 98. Regulation Bicycle Stockings at only 65c. Regulation Bicycle Belts, all colors, from 25c up. BICYCLE CLUBS wishing uniforms of special colors and designs can have their outfits made to order. Prices guaranteed lower than elsewhere.

LADIES WHO WANT COMFORT During the heated term should not neglect to avail themselves of the following special offers to be made in our Cloak and Suit Parlors during the next THREE DAYS: Fine Stylish Summer Dresses. 100 fine Gingham Suits, in newest shades and plaids and stripes, reduced from \$5 to \$3 50. 250 fine French Gingham Suits, latest trimmings, beautifully made, reduced from \$10 to \$7 50; others which were \$7 50 reduced to \$5. 50 exquisite figured India Silk Suits at only \$15; they would be cheap at \$25. GRAND VARIETY OF WRAPPERS AT EQUAL REDUCTIONS.

Thin Coats and Vests for the Hot Weather. The largest stock and the lowest prices. They're both right here at Kaufmann's. During this special 3-days' sale we will offer Men's good Black Alpaca Coats at \$1; Men's neat Striped Flannel Coats and Vests at 75c; Seersucker Coats and Vests at 75c; fine Mohair Coats and Vests at \$2 50. These are grand bargains, indeed.

Big Offering in Straw Hats! Men's Yacht Straw Hats, like cut, at 39c, 50c, 98c and up to \$3. Men's Curled Brim Straw Hats, feather-weight and conforming to shape of head, 50c, 75c, 98c and up to \$2. Men's Manilla Hats, all different colors, at 98c. The foregoing prices will be named To-morrow, Tuesday and Wednesday.

OUR NEW MILLINERY DEPARTMENT Will blossom forth To-morrow, Tuesday and Wednesday with a charming and attractive array of SUMMER HATS, Which we will offer at astoundingly low prices. The very latest large Hats, gray, tan or black, in fine Chips and Milans; also, Black Lace, Fine Silk Mull and French Crepe Hats, very fashionable. From \$5 to \$10. Grand line of fine Trimmed Hats and Toques at \$3 50.

WASH WAISTS BY THE THOUSANDS, And every one at a specially low price during the next 3 days. Handsome white Lawn or Percale Waists at 50c, 69c, 75c. Finer qualities in a seemingly inexhaustible variety at \$1 50, \$2 and \$3. Beautiful Silk Waists from \$4 49 up to \$10. STYLISH SEPARATE SKIRTS, To be worn with above waists, at very low figures. Black, Tan or Gray Brilliantine Skirts, full pleated back, 10 inch pleated ruffle around bottom, at \$4 49. Other materials from \$3 up to the finest Silk Skirts at \$15.

DO YOU WANT A PAIR OF PANTS? During the next 3 days you can come in and take your choice from seventy different patterns of Men's nobby All-wool Dress Pants at only \$3. The same qualities have been retailed heretofore at \$4, \$4 25 and \$4 50.

500 FINE LIGHT COLORED DERBYS. LATEST PEARL SHADE, In square or round crown, same quality as sold in exclusive hat stores at \$3, will be closed out during the next three days at only \$1 80. Finest Pearl Colored Derbys, sold elsewhere at \$5, for only \$3. 1,000 More Crush Hats at 50c. The come in all different light and dark colors, and cannot be bought in any hat store below \$1. Come before Wednesday evening and get one at 50c.

WONDERFUL - BARGAINS - IN - CHILDREN'S - DRESSES! Will be offered in our Cloak and Suit Parlors during the next three days. 20 dozen fine White Lawn Short Dresses, hem-stitched waist, deep hem on skirt, ONLY 50c. 30 dozen fine Short Dresses, waist made with tucks and inserting, and trimmed with embroidery, AT ONLY 75c. 15 dozen very fine White Lawn Dresses, waist trimmed with Swiss embroidery, skirt with deep ruffle of embroidery, ONLY \$1. There's a big saving in these goods for any purchaser.

COOL AND AIRY BLAZERS! Every lady should have one. Who can't afford to buy at the special prices prevailing during the next 3 days? A large line of Tan, Gray and Blue Blazers, very fine goods, marked down From \$15 to \$10. From \$12 to \$8. From \$10 to \$6. From \$6 to \$3. The very latest! 100 Genuine Bedford Cord Blazers, in solid cream, or cream with black stripes, at only \$5; worth \$7 50. 75 very fine Cream Flannel Blazers, trimmed with gold passamenterie, reduced from \$12 50 to \$8 50.

OUR BOYS' CLOTHING DEPARTMENT Will come to the front Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with a perfect avalanche of bargains, of which the following are a few: Brown and Blue Jersey Sailor Suits, neatly braided, at only \$1. A lot of pleated Cheviot Sailor Suits, with red silk anchors on shoulders, at \$1 50. A large line of Children's Wash Suits, in fine Striped and Plaid Linens, at 75c, \$1 50, \$2 50 and \$3 50. These are bargains worth coming for, and if you are shrewd, You'll Come at Once.

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